Docket No.: 50212-574 **PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277

Tetsufumi TSUZAKI, et al. : Confirmation Number:

Serial No.: : Group Art Unit:

Filed: February 06, 2004 : Examiner:

For: RAMAN AMPLIFIER AND OPTICAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM INCLUDING THE

SAME

CLAIM OF PRIORITY

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 119, Applicants hereby claim the priority of:

Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-030791, filed February 7, 2003 and Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-417124, filed December 15, 2003

cited in the Declaration of the present application. Certified copies will be filed in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Registration No. 26,106

600 13th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-3096 (202) 756-8000 AJS:prg Facsimile: (202) 756-8087

Date: February 6, 2004